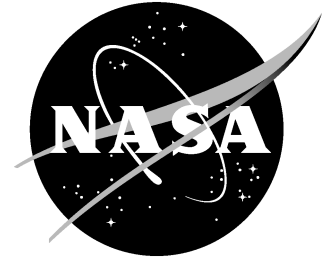


# NewsRelease

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

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## **INTERVIEW AND PHOTO OPPORTUNITY**

### **NASA astronaut visits to report on Langley spacewalk mission**

NASA astronaut Pat Forrester, one of the crew members to install NASA Langley's Materials International Space Station Experiment (MISSE) on the space station last summer, will visit Langley Research Center on November 29.

Forrester, who made his first trip into space this year as a member of the STS-105 crew, will brief employees and show a video on the highlights of the mission. The presentation will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

During a spacewalk on STS-105, Forrester and fellow astronaut Dan Barry clamped two Langley experiment cases to the exterior of the International Space Station, exposing approximately 1000 advanced materials to the harsh environment of space. The cases will be retrieved by spacewalking astronauts in January 2003. Researchers will then study how recently developed materials hold up in space. These materials are hoped to be used to build lighter but sturdier space structures and space vehicles in the future.

The second set of MISSE cases, scheduled to be attached to the space station when the first two are retrieved, will include approximately 900 next-generation materials and 8 million basil seeds. The seeds are part of a student experiment which will allow school children around the country to study the effects of the space environment on plants.

**Local media are invited to attend the STS-105 briefing at 10 a.m on Thursday, November 29. Immediately following the briefing, Pat Forrester will be available for print and broadcast media interviews. Reporters will be met at the NASA Langley main gate at 9:45 a.m. Please call Ivelisse Gilman at 757-864-5036 if you are interested in attending.**

For more information on Pat Forrester, check the Internet at:  
<http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/forreste.html>

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